
By: **Delegate Eckardt**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2003

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Occupations - Licensed Clinical Pastoral Therapists**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists to
4 grant a license to practice clinical pastoral therapy to an individual who meets
5 certain qualifications; requiring an applicant for a certain license to submit a
6 certain application and pay a certain fee; authorizing a licensee to practice
7 clinical pastoral therapy and render certain diagnoses; requiring the Board to
8 grant a license to an individual who is currently licensed as a clinical pastoral
9 therapist in another state; requiring the Board to adopt certain regulations;
10 defining certain terms; and generally relating to licensed clinical pastoral
11 therapists.

12 BY adding to

13 Article - Health Occupations

14 Section 17-3B-01 through 17-3B-07, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle

15 "Subtitle 3B. Licensed Clinical Pastoral Therapists"

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

19 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article - Health Occupations**

21 **SUBTITLE 3B. LICENSED CLINICAL PASTORAL THERAPISTS.**

22 17-3B-01.

23 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
24 INDICATED.

25 (B) "LICENSE" MEANS A LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD TO PRACTICE
26 CLINICAL PASTORAL THERAPY.

1 (C) "PRACTICE CLINICAL PASTORAL THERAPY" MEANS TO ENGAGE
2 PROFESSIONALLY AND FOR COMPENSATION IN MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING AND
3 SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE BY PROVIDING SERVICES INVOLVING THE APPLICATION OF
4 COUNSELING PRINCIPLES AND METHODS IN THE DIAGNOSIS, PREVENTION,
5 TREATMENT, AND AMELIORATION OF PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS, EMOTIONAL
6 CONDITIONS, OR MENTAL CONDITIONS OF INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS.

7 17-3B-02.

8 THE BOARD SHALL GRANT A LICENSE TO PRACTICE CLINICAL PASTORAL
9 THERAPY TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:

10 (1) SUBMITS TO THE BOARD EVIDENCE THAT PROVES GOOD MORAL
11 CHARACTER AND PROFESSIONAL ETHICS, INCLUDING AT LEAST TWO ORIGINAL
12 LETTERS, WRITTEN WITHIN THE PRECEDING YEAR, FROM PROFESSIONALS
13 ATTESTING TO THE INDIVIDUAL'S GOOD MORAL CHARACTER AND PROFESSIONAL
14 ETHICS, SUBMITTED ON LETTERHEAD, SEALED, AND SIGNED ACROSS THE SEALED
15 PART OF THE ENVELOPE;

16 (2) HOLDS A MASTER OF DIVINITY DEGREE, OR DOCTORAL DEGREE,
17 WITH A MAJOR IN PASTORAL COUNSELING, OR A CLOSELY RELATED FIELD, FROM A
18 UNIVERSITY OR THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY ACCREDITED BY A NATIONAL OR
19 REGIONAL ACCREDITING BODY RECOGNIZED BY THE COUNCIL ON POSTSECONDARY
20 ACCREDITATION OR ANOTHER NATIONAL OR REGIONAL ACCREDITING BODY;

21 (3) IS A CERTIFIED MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
22 PASTORAL COUNSELORS OR ANOTHER NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PASTORAL
23 COUNSELING ASSOCIATION;

24 (4) SUBMITS TO THE BOARD EVIDENCE THAT PROVES THAT THE
25 INDIVIDUAL HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN THE FULL-TIME PRACTICE OF CLINICAL
26 PASTORAL THERAPY FOR AT LEAST 5 YEARS SINCE RECEIVING THE CERTIFICATION
27 REQUIRED UNDER ITEM (3) OF THIS SECTION; AND

28 (5) HAS COMPLETED 3,000 CONTACT HOURS OF SUPERVISED
29 COUNSELING EXPERIENCE WITH AN APPROVED SUPERVISOR SUCH AS AN AMERICAN
30 ASSOCIATION OF PASTORAL COUNSELORS SUPERVISOR, OR A SUPERVISOR FROM
31 ANOTHER NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PASTORAL COUNSELING ASSOCIATION,
32 LICENSED PASTORAL COUNSELOR, LICENSED PSYCHIATRIST, LICENSED
33 PSYCHOLOGIST, OR CLINICAL PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR.

34 17-3B-03.

35 TO APPLY FOR A LICENSE, AN APPLICANT SHALL:

36 (1) SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE BOARD ON THE FORM THAT THE
37 BOARD REQUIRES; AND

38 (2) PAY TO THE BOARD AN APPLICATION FEE SET BY THE BOARD.

1 17-3B-04.

2 A LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE LICENSEE TO PRACTICE CLINICAL PASTORAL
3 THERAPY WHILE THE LICENSE IS EFFECTIVE.

4 17-3B-05.

5 AN INDIVIDUAL LICENSED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE MAY PROVIDE SERVICES
6 INVOLVING THE APPLICATION OF COUNSELING PRINCIPLES AND METHODS IN THE
7 DIAGNOSIS, PREVENTION, TREATMENT, AND AMELIORATION OF PSYCHOLOGICAL
8 PROBLEMS, EMOTIONAL CONDITIONS, OR MENTAL CONDITIONS OF INDIVIDUALS OR
9 GROUPS.

10 17-3B-06.

11 THE BOARD SHALL GRANT A LICENSE TO PRACTICE CLINICAL PASTORAL
12 THERAPY TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS CURRENTLY LICENSED AS A CLINICAL
13 PASTORAL THERAPIST IN ANOTHER STATE IF THAT INDIVIDUAL:

14 (1) MEETS THE QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY
15 THE BOARD FOR A RECIPROCAL LICENSE;

16 (2) SUBMITS AN APPLICATION TO THE BOARD ON THE FORM THAT THE
17 BOARD REQUIRES; AND

18 (3) PAYS TO THE BOARD AN APPLICATION FEE SET BY THE BOARD.

19 17-3B-07.

20 THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBTITLE.

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 October 1, 2003.